Worksheet 1 Computing related legislation

Task 1

1. (a) Research the details of the eight principles of the Data Protection Act, 1998. You can find them, with explanations, at https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-data-protection/data-protection-principles/

   (b) Who do you think is storing your personal details?

   (c) Use the Information Commissioner's website https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/ to find out how to make a subject access request to verify data about yourself. Is it right that you should have to pay for this?

   (d) How might a future employer use openly available social profile details about you?

2. The Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 allows for the mass surveillance of communications, and requires Internet Service providers to give access to messages without telling their customers. Explain your own view on balancing national security against individual privacy in the context of digital communication.

Task 2

1. Find answers to these questions about **bitcoin**. You can look at the website whose address is given below, or search on Google.

   http://www.coindesk.com/information/what-is-bitcoin/

   (a) What is bitcoin?

   (b) Is bitcoin legal?

   (c) Name 2 online stores that you can buy goods from using bitcoin.

   (d) Name 2 shops, hotels or restaurants that you can pay with bitcoin.

   (e) Give two reasons why you might use bitcoin.

   (f) Name two illegal or questionable uses of bitcoin.

   (g) Why is is used for illegal purchases?

   (h) Who created bitcoin?

   (i) What does this case study tell us about the power and responsibility of software developers?

Task 3

1. A group of insect rights activists have decided to leak the text of a forthcoming book, “Cockroach Control for Dummies” which they have downloaded from a publisher’s server. They correctly guessed the password was “password123” for the account “admin”. They have also downloaded a mailing list of direct customers, which includes names, addresses and past purchases, using the same account.

   However, after being overheard discussing their plans in a café, they find themselves being interviewed by the police.

   (a) What crimes might be involved? Imagine that you are a police officer preparing a summary of the issues involved, so that you can hold a meeting with the Crown Prosecution Service to discuss what charges, if any, should be brought.

   (b) Organise a role-play of the initial stages of a trial in which lawyers present evidence from witnesses including the accused, the publisher, police officers and anyone else you feel should be involved. There will need to be a judge and a jury.